

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 16 is pending in the present application. Claims 1-15 were canceled. No claims were added.

During a telephone interview with Examiner Thomas Richardson on July 31, 2008, the Examiner advised that claim 16 was allowable, and that the application would be allowed if claims 1-15 were canceled. By the present Supplemental Amendment, accordingly, claims 1-15 have been canceled. This application, therefore, is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

In this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 1-15 from further consideration in this application. Applicants are not conceding that the subject matter encompassed by claims 1-15 prior to this Amendment is not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Claims 1-15 were canceled in this Amendment solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue claims, including the subject matter encompassed by claims 1-15, as presented prior to this Amendment and additional claims in one or more continuing applications.

I. Conclusion

This application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner so find and issue a Notice of Allowance in due course.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: August 1, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

/Gerald H. Glanzman/
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